

correspondence re preparation & publication  
of Sherwood Eddy biography.

Deane Herma  
Hartley Fowler  
Clarence Shedd  
Seymour Smith  
Association Press.

262-A Whitney Avenue  
New Haven 11, Conn.  
April 8, 1953

Mr. Sherwood Eddy  
108 Finley Street  
Jacksonville, Ill.

Dear Mr. Eddy:

By way of introduction, I am a graduate student here at Yale University working towards a Ph.D. degree in the field of Religion in Higher Education. My major work is being guided by Dr. Clarence P. Shedd. At present I am trying to find an acceptable dissertation problem on which I can begin working after I finish my Ph.D. examinations, to be taken next month.

Both Dr. Shedd and Dr. Seymour Smith have suggested that a study of your writings and your influence on American and world life would make an acceptable subject. Since I am very much interested in your contributions and have read some of your books, I am writing to you for certain information. First of all, and most important, would my doing a thorough study of your life meet with your approval? I would not even think of beginning such a project unless you would give me the go-ahead signal. Secondly, I understand that most of your personal archives are now in the John R. Mott Library at the Yale Divinity School. I am wondering if you have further material and personal correspondence that could be made available for such a study. Thirdly, I realize that Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr has the first right to publish your life. In view of Dr. Niebuhr's serious health problem, I wonder if you would be willing to waive that right if I were to undertake such a study.

I hope that I am not being too forward in asking you these questions. You understand, of course, that this dissertation is only tentative. I would not consider undertaking a study of your many contributions without first writing you and seeking your encouragement. Thank you for any consideration you may be able to give me. I should appreciate a reply at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

*Deane W. Ferm*

Deane W. Ferm

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April 30, 1953

Dr. Kirby Page  
Alhambra, California

Dear Kirby,

It is a long time since I have heard from you. I hope you are keeping well.

I am now in the New York Office of the International Committee and I am enjoying my work in New York and New England.

It occurred to me the other day that someone should write the biography of Sherwood Eddy, and that you are the logical man to do it. Had you ever thought of doing so? It would be too bad if his great life story was not conserved for the future. What do you think about it?

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

*Hartley Fowler*  
Hartley Fowler

JHF:o

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May 14, 1953

Dr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Kirby,

It was good to hear from you. I am glad that you look favorably on writing Sherwood's biography, and I hope he will agree to it.

I have talked with Jim Rietmulder, Director of Association Press. He assures me that the Press would be interested in publishing such a book. He suggests that it be about sixty thousand to seventy thousand words, which would sell for about \$3.00. He thinks it should be an objective, constructively critical type of book that does not over idealize Sherwood, but which shows his outstanding service as well as his human qualities. If you proceed, I would suggest that you get in touch with Mr. Rietmulder so that you two will be working together on it. It will be a pleasure for me to help in any way I can.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

*Hartley*

JHF:o

J. Hartley Fowler

Dictated, but not  
read by Mr. Fowler

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June 1, 1953

Dr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Kirby,

Thanks for yours of the 20th. I am delighted that you are going ahead with Sherwood's biography. It should be an inspiring document.

I will look over my correspondence and files and send you anything I think helpful, though I am afraid I destroyed some of the material before I moved over here.

✓ Max Yergan's address is: Pinebridge Road, Ossining, New York.

Best wishes to you as you start on this important task.

Cordially yours,

*Hartley*

JHF:o

J. Hartley Fowler

✓ I told Ray Sweetman about the Eddy biography this morning. As you doubtless know, he handled many of Sherwood's belongings to Europe. He should have some good material. His address is: Room 1002, 2 W. 45th St., N.Y.C.

May 21, 1951.

Dear Clarence:

Sherwood tells me that he is requesting you to send me his correspondence and report letters. I will be grateful for your co-operation in this way. He says that part of it is being used for a Doctor's dissertation. That material may be sent to me when it is available. The balance of it I would appreciate when it is convenient to send it. I will preserve it with great care and return it by registered mail or express. I can send it back in a month if that is desirable, or at the end of the summer if that will be satisfactory.

Clarence, you can be of invaluable help by sending me numerous pen-pictures of Sherwood in varying situations. Please dictate unhurried recollections of his traits of character, his strong points and his weak ones. You have known him intimately over a long period, so please draw heavily upon your memory and your records.

I will be grateful indeed for any suggestions you care to make about the biography.

It would be mighty nice to have a visit with you.

Cordially,

P S Please send also all articles by Sherwood in your collection.



# THE WORLD'S ALLIANCE OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

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37 QUAI WILSON, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND  
CABLES FLEMGO GENEVA • TELEPHONE 270 60

3 June 1953

Dr. Kirby Page  
P. O. Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Kirby:

Your letter of May 21 has just reached me in Geneva. Of course we will be delighted to loan to you Sherwood Eddy's correspondence and report letters which are part of the John R. Mott library. The only embarrassment is one associated with the question of your time schedule. Some time ago I requested one of my more gifted graduate students to center his doctoral dissertation around the life and world leadership of Sherwood Eddy, with of course special reference to his relationships and contributions to the World Y.M.C.A. Movement. As you know, I am working on a History of the World Movement of the Y.M.C.A. which must be carefully documented and which must be completed by the end of 1954. I have been giving all of my time to this project during the past year and will return to Yale in the fall to take up my teaching work again; but subject to a plan for future further release from Yale beginning March 1, 1954, for the completion of this project. I have hoped that Deane Ferm might begin working on the Eddy material immediately and that during the summer he would search especially for the kinds of materials which would throw light on Sherwood's unique contributions to the movements in the Far East, his direct contribution to the World Movement of the Y.M.C.A., and the many indirect contributions made through his comradeship with Dr. Mott. As I understand Deane Ferm's schedule, he is free to start on this project at once (that is, after the Commencement period is over). Sherwood had previously given his approval to this proposal and Deane Ferm's project has already had the official approval of the Graduate School. There may be no conflicts here at all because it is barely possible that your schedule is a flexible one and that you or Deane Ferm could arrange between yourselves a time schedule for the sharing of these materials.

My suggestion would be that in order to save time, you correspond directly with my colleague, Professor Seymour Smith, and have him work out the details with Deane Ferm. Whatever plan you folks work out together would of course be satisfactory to me. You realize of course that there would be an agreement made as to the time limit for the availability of the materials, and that you would cover the cost of the transportation of the materials back and forth.

*★ World Centennial Conference - Paris August 1955 ★*

PRESIDENT JOHN FORRESTER-PATON • HON. LIFE PRESIDENT DR. JOHN R. MOTT • TREASURER ANDRÉ WAGNIÈRE  
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2. Dr. Kirby Page

3 June 1953

I am sending a copy of this letter to Professor Smith and to Sherwood Eddy. Will you be good enough to send to me copies of any future correspondence you may have on this subject so that I may be kept informed.

On the second matter - namely, that of preparing a statement for your biography - I would say that it would be a pleasure and privilege for me to help you in this way. I assume however that you would be willing to let me wait on this until later in the summer, as I have my nose to the grindstone on my project here and also because as I work on this subject, I will probably find material which you will want to use in your book.

With warm personal regards, I remain

Cordially yours,



Clarence P. Shedd

CPS:jhs

Cc: Prof. Seymour Smith  
Dr. Sherwood Eddy

P. S. You might care to see a copy of a S.T.M. Essay just completed at Yale and of which I have just seen a copy. It is written by William A. Imler and is called "The Evangelistic Campaigns of Sherwood Eddy in India and China - 1896 to 1931." I am sure that Professor Smith can loan you a copy of this. It is very well written.



June 3, 1953

Dr. Sherwood Eddy  
108 Finley Street  
Jacksonville, Illinois

Dear Dr. Eddy:

Your most recent letter of May 23rd has come to my attention during Dr. Shedd's absence in Switzerland. To send Kirby Page now the report letters and other materials which you have deposited in the Yale Divinity School library would provide something of an embarrassing conflict for Deane Fera, who is doing his Ph.D. dissertation on your work and its relationship to the YMCA. Mr. Fera has just completed his preliminary examinations and is ready to begin working over the library materials. Before he presses his research in other directions, it is important that he has opportunity to analyze the report letters and other materials which are on hand here. He could probably complete this task within the next six weeks or surely by the 1st of August. I wonder whether Kirby Page's schedule is sufficiently flexible so that it would be agreeable to have the materials sent him later in the summer. I shall await further word from you before taking any action.

Sincerely yours,

Seymour A. Smith

SAS/du  
cc. Mr. Kirby Page  
Mr. Raymond P. Morris

YALE UNIVERSITY  
THE DIVINITY SCHOOL

RELIGION IN HIGHER EDUCATION  
CLARENCE PROUTY SHEDD  
SEYMOUR A. SMITH

409 PROSPECT STREET  
NEW HAVEN 11, CONN.

June 3, 1953

Dr. Sherwood Eddy  
108 Finley Street  
Jacksonville, Illinois

Dear Dr. Eddy:

Your most recent letter of May 23rd has come to my attention during Dr. Shedd's absence in Switzerland. To send Kirby Page now the report letters and other materials which you have deposited in the Yale Divinity School library would provide something of an embarrassing conflict for Deane Ferm, who is doing his Ph.D. dissertation on your work and its relationship to the YMCA. Mr. Ferm has just completed his preliminary examinations and is ready to begin working over the library materials. Before he presses his research in other directions, it is important that he have opportunity to analyze the report letters and other materials which are on hand here. He could probably complete this task within the next six weeks or surely by the 1st of August. I wonder whether Kirby Page's schedule is sufficiently flexible so that it would be agreeable to have the materials sent him later in the summer. I shall await further word from you before taking any action.

Sincerely yours,

*Seymour A. Smith*  
Seymour A. Smith

SAS/du  
cc. Mr. Kirby Page  
Mr. Raymond P. Morris

*You answer the Kirby*

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

June 8, 1953

Dr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Kirby,

Enclosed is some material which may be of use to you in your work on Sherwood's biography. It consists of "Round-the-World Letters" written by both you and Sherwood, and some of my own reports.

✓  
Dr. Clifford Carey, who is in charge of records in the National Council library, says that we will be glad to furnish duplicates of any materials on hand which may help you with the biography. For instance, there are duplicates of Sherwood's reports from India which can be sent to you if you would like to have them.

Your request for biographical material on "Y" Secretaries happens to come at a bad time, as Dr. Kenneth Latourette is writing the history of YMCA World Service and many of the biographies and other materials have been sent to him. However, Dr. Carey says that there may be duplicates of some of the biographies you want in the Springfield and/or George Williams College libraries. Unfortunately, Dr. Latourette is planning to keep this material for some time. Among the materials that have been sent is your thesis on YMCA work in China. I am wondering if you could get a copy of it from the University of Chicago.

I am asking Mrs. Howell, National Council librarian, to write you further about any other materials which she has on hand and which she may think will be of value to you. She did, however, suggest that you give us the names of some of the people whose biographies you would like to have. Perhaps you would be interested in having a list of books that Sherwood has written. Our library could send you this.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Hartley*

J. Hartley Fowler

JHF:o

Dictated, but not  
read by Mr. Fowler

cc: Mrs. Howell

YALE UNIVERSITY  
THE DIVINITY SCHOOL

RELIGION IN HIGHER EDUCATION  
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SEYMOUR A. SMITH

409 PROSPECT STREET  
NEW HAVEN 11, CONN.

June 10, 1953

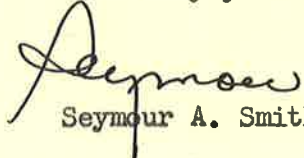
Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Dr. Page:

I am so pleased to hear that it is agreeable to you to allow Deane Ferm to begin work on the Sherwood Eddy materials now. I shall encourage Mr. Ferm to work on this as rapidly as possible, and perhaps as he completes a given part of the material he can arrange with Mr. Morris to have this sent on to you. Since I shall be out of the city for the next month, I shall ask Mr. Ferm to make any necessary arrangements with Mr. Morris for seeing that the materials get to you as quickly as possible.

The only extra copy of the William Imler essay on Sherwood Eddy has been airmailed to Clarence Shedd in Geneva. I shall make inquiry of Mr. Morris whether one of the library copies of this essay can be made available to you on an inter-library loan basis. You will hear from him directly on this.

Cordially yours,

  
Seymour A. Smith

SAS/du

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291 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 7, N.Y.

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June 11, 1953

Dear Dr. Page:

Since Mr. Fowler wrote you on June 8 it has been possible to hold back the copy of your thesis on China which was to have been sent to Dr. Latourette. Dr. Latourette will not be taking up the Chinese phases of our World Services until a later date and in the meantime we are happy to make this copy available to you. When it is returned will you please see that it is addressed to the YMCA Historical Library, 291 Broadway, New York 7, N.Y?

If you will send us any other specific requests you may have we will be glad to see what we can do about furnishing materials or lists of books.

Sincerely yours,

*Jessie L. Howell (Mrs.)*

Librarian

YMCA Historical Library

Enclosure

Dr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

cc: Mr. Fowler

# Association Press

291 BROADWAY

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

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June 11, 1953

Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Mr. Page:

Your outline for the proposed book on SHERWOOD EDDY looks very good. I have taken the liberty of sharing it with Mr. Sproul. He, too, feels that it is quite good.

Both of us have some question about the use of the word "Impact." It may be that a word like "influence" would be better. You'll want to think about that.

Of course, this outline still leaves me wondering why I, or some of my compatriots who were not in the Eddy generation and were never touched by Eddy directly, should want to read about his life. It doesn't tell me, but of course, this is only a rough skeleton, what difference his life makes to me, why I should bother reading about him. This is something you'll want to keep in mind because this very subject matter is a limiting kind of subject matter, relatively. We need to find every way possible to give it the widest possible market and interest.

As you begin the writing of it, I hope you will also begin to do some thinking about who might be helpful in helping to get this book rolling if it can be published. It is going to be a problem finding an easy way to get a lot of copies out of the book immediately after publication. Are there any groups, foundations, committees or others, who ought to be contacted by you now and feel involved in the preparation of this book, so that they will feel involved in its distribution---and might even take an interest in the distribution.

As soon as you have any semi-finished drafts of any of the material, I hope you will send them along to us. This will give us a head start on it. We may also have some suggestions that would be helpful to you and might be used by you if you hadn't gotten too far along in all of the writing.

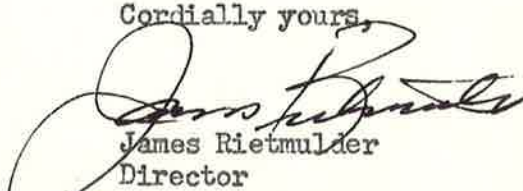
Happy writing!

Publication Department  
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JOHN OLIVER NELSON, Chairman  
JAMES RIETMULDER, Director

JR/gb

Cordially yours,

  
James Rietmulder  
Director

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

June 15, 1953

Dr. Kirby Page  
P. O. Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Dr. Page,

This will acknowledge your letter of June 6th to Mr. Fowler. He will be away from the office until next week, but you will no doubt hear from him regarding your request just as soon as it is possible for him to write.

Sincerely yours,

*Joseph P. Osborn*  
Secretary to  
J. Hartley Fowler

/dpo

WM. J. GREDE  
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June 25, 1953

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ARTHUR B. FOYE, VICE-CHAIRMAN  
HERBERT P. LANSDALE, JR.  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Dr. Kirby Page  
P. O. Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Kirby,

I am working on the list of names as requested in your letter of June 6th, and will send them to you later.

Here is a copy of a letter which I think you should have. It was written by Sherwood on the death of his son Arden. As you know, the Eddys lost all three of their children: a baby in India, and later, Arden and Margaret in the United States. The way Sherwood took all these deep personal losses was inspiring.

Cordially yours,

*Hartley*  
J. Hartley Fowler

JHF:o  
Enclosure

Copy of letter from Sherwood Eddy on death of his son.

New York, Feb. 21st, 1917.

My dear Hartley:

On Sat. night Feb. 17th, our dear boy Arden passed suddenly and quietly away. He had been sick less than a week with Pneumonia. On Saturday he took a sudden turn for the worse and before we could say good-bye to him he had entered into life. He leaves a memory of 14 years of unclouded sunshine, rich with happy associations and with no regrets. During the week that he was sick he had talked with the nurse about going as a missionary to India. I remember one day while I was walking homewith him I said, "Well, Arden, we are almost home." He looked up with a bright smile and said, "This isn't home for me, father. I have no home but India, and it will be such a long time until I can finish school and college and then go back to India as a missionary.

He had written to me several times about being regular in keeping his morning watch. Upon looking at the Bible Study book on his desk I found that the last passage he had marked on his last day of health was Mark 5:35, where Jesus had said: "Fear not, only believe, the child is not dead but sleepeth. And taking the child by the hand he said 'I say unto thee, arise". He too had been raised into new life.

I found also his personal account book. The account showed - for necessary expenses \$1.26, for himself 41 cents, for giving 10.30.

He was a normal, healthy, happy boy; fond of sport, a good golfer and tennis player and half-back on his little football team. There was no death and no parting, just a sudden and peaceful entering into the life abundant. He is now with us more than ever. His whole life was joyous and peaceful, unbroken by a single sorrow, and for us sorrow is swallowed up in joy. I did not know that God's grace could be so sufficient and satisfying. Our home has never been more happy than it is today, nor our family circle so unbroken and united. Earth is not poorer, but heaven is so much richer, and life is fuller. There was nothing precocious about our little boy. He only lived and loved. He was the purest little soul that I have known. The one great lesson that I pray I may learn from his life is that great first and last lesson of love. I am only filled with thanksgiving for the rich gift of this little life. God never takes back a gift he gives. He has only taken him to Himself till we meet in the larger life of perfect love.

Very sincerely yours,

(sd) Sherwood Eddy

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WORLD'S COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS OFFICE  
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CABLES FLEMGO GENEVA • TELEPHONE 2 70 60

30 June 1953

Dr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Kirby:

Thank you for your note of June 8. I am delighted that you and Seymour Smith and Deane Fern have worked out a satisfactory time schedule for the use of the Sherwood Eddy material.

When I return to the States, I shall send you my own copy of the Inler essay on Eddy's Evangelistic Campaigns.

With warm personal regards, I remain

Cordially yours,

Clarence P. Shedd

CPS:jhs

★ *World Centennial Conference - Paris August 1955* ★

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June 15, 1953

Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Mr. Page:

Seymour Smith has forwarded to me a copy of his letter to you of June 10 concerning the use of the Sherwood Eddy materials.

I have just returned to my office after being out of town. I shall see Mr. Fern and see if we cannot arrange that you receive these materials shortly after the first of July.

Also at that time, I shall forward to you William Imler's essay on Sherwood Eddy.

Please be sure we are happy to oblige you. Will you kindly direct any further inquiries concerning these materials to me?

Very truly yours,

*Raymond P. Morris*

Raymond P. Morris  
Librarian

RPM/d

*Please return*  
262-A Whitney Avenue  
New Haven 11, Conn'tt.  
July 2, 1953

Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Mr. Page:

By way of introduction, I am the graduate student who is working on the Sherwood Eddy material for my doctoral dissertation. I am sorry to have inconvenienced you in delaying the date for the material to be sent to you. I have been working long hours on the material, and as a result I will be finishing much sooner than I had anticipated. I shall ask Mr. Morris to send the Eddy Collection to you in a day or two. Of course, there is more detailed work that I would like to do on it, but I can do that when you return it at the end of August.

You will find that Dr. Eddy's material is not all in correct order and that he has not correctly numbered all the report letters. Because I have been rushing to finish the work, I left the material just as I found it. Furthermore, some of the report letters are missing and will have to be found in other sources.

*Jensen*  
*OK*  
I would appreciate very much any help you can give me on my project. I am chiefly concerned with the years in which Dr. Eddy was connected with the YMCA, i.e., 1896-1931. I want to find out what the relationship was that existed between him and the YMCA. Did he have free reign in formulating his own policies in India, China, and Europe? What controls did the YMCA put on him and his work? How did his preaching the social gospel affect this relationship? I am interested in tracing this relationship through the thirty-five years of association. I am sure that with your intimate knowledge of Dr. Eddy and his problems you could furnish me with a great deal of insight and information.

I have another favor to ask of you. I wonder if during the month or so that you will be working on the Eddy Collection from Yale, you could send me material that I would not otherwise have a chance to study. I have available here, in addition to the Eddy material, most of his books and pamphlets. Would you have other material that I could read -- private correspondence, articles, clippings, etc.. If you could forward any such papers, it would help me immeasurably. I would take very good care of the material, and would send it back to you at the date you specify. During July and August I will be working on my dissertation at my wife's home at 50 Holden Street, Worcester 5, Mass'tts..

I would appreciate it if you could write me at this latter address at your earliest convenience. Thank you for any advice and material you may be able to give me on my dissertation problem.

Sincerely yours

*Deane W. Ferm*  
Deane W. Ferm



50 Holden Street  
Worcester 5, Mass'tts.  
July 16, 1953

Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Mr. Page:

I want to thank you for your kind letter of July 8th. It is a great help to me to have the names of men who were intimately connected with Dr. Eddy's career, and I shall be writing to all of them soon. I will appreciate your sending me all the material that you can, and I shall, of course, refund you the postage or mailing charges. You can be sure that I will take good care of the material.

Cordially yours,

*Deane W. Ferm*

Deane W. Ferm

50 Holden Street  
Worcester 5, Masssts.  
July 27, 1953

Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Mr. Page:

Thank you for your letter of July 22. I would appreciate very much your sending me the score of Dr. Eddy's report letters which were not in the Yale collection. Although they may not have a direct bearing on his relationship to the YMCA, I still am trying to read each and every thing I possibly can that Dr. Eddy has written. Would it be possible for you to include any other correspondence, articles, etc. that are not to be found in the Yale collection? I wrote to Dr. Eddy about the possibility of my reading the manuscript copy of Adventure, and he replied that you have the only copy. Would it be asking too much for you to send that along with other material? Also, at your suggestion I wrote to Mr. Eugene Barnett for advice, and his secretary replied that some material from the YMCA files on Dr. Eddy had been sent to you. I should like very much to see this, too.

I know that I am asking a lot of you. However, I promise that any material you send me I shall return to you in less than two weeks.

Thank you very much for all your help.

Cordially yours,

*Deane W. Ferm*

Deane W. Ferm

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# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CORPORATE BODY: NATIONAL BOARD OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

291 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 7, N.Y.

DIGBY 9-0700

August 3, 1953

Dear Dr. Page:

We have your July 31st note in which you say you have sent the materials from our library to Mr. Deane W. Ferm at Worcester, Massachusetts. We had no previous information about Mr. Deane's thesis on Sherwood Eddy and therefore did not know that the materials would be going to him. We will write him and confirm the arrangements about the return of the books and pamphlets.

We will appreciate receiving the duplicate items listed in your letter.

Sincerely yours,

*Vessie L. Howell*

YMCA Historical Library

Dr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

50 Holden Street  
Worcester 5, Mass. tts.  
August 19, 1953

Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Mr. Page:

I am sorry that I have been so tardy in writing you. I am the minister of an interdenominational Protestant Church at Fishers Island, New York, which I serve on week-ends, and for the first week in August my wife, son, and I took advantage of some good swimming and fishing on the Island. Now I am 'back at the book', and I plan no more extended vacations until next summer..

I want to thank you for sending me all the material. You certainly have been most generous in helping me out, and I want you to know how much I appreciate it. I have finished reading the report letters, and I will mail them to you today; they were a big help to me. Also, I have hastily read Mr. Eddy's autobiography Adventure which I will mail to him today. Enclosed in this letter you will find the bibliographies which you sent me.. When I finish the material from the YMCA Historical Library in a few days, I will send it directly to the New York City address. This material includes several pamphlets which I had not yet been able to find. When I return to New Haven after Labor Day, I will check the bibliography lists against the Yale catalogs to see if there are any pamphlets which I do not have access to. If you find any more material that I could read, I would appreciate your sending it on to me for a short period of time.

Mr. Eddy has written that you would like to keep the Yale Material until you finish writing your biography. I, of course, want to cooperate with you in every possible way. About how long would you need the material? I had planned to begin writing in November and hoped to use that material then. Please let me know your plans. I should like very much to know just how you plan to organize your biography. Do you plan to include all the facets of Mr. Eddy's varied life? What is the expected length and breadth? I would hope very much that you were planning a trip East in the near future in order that I might benefit from a long talk with you; but I suppose that is just a wish on my part!

Once again let me thank you for the many kindnesses that you have been showing to me. I deeply appreciate all of them.

Cordially yours,

*Deane W. Ferm*  
Deane W. Ferm

August 23, 1953.

Dear Mr. Fermi:

Your letter of the 19th is here. I note that you want to begin writing in November. I will try to get all the Yale material back to you as early as possible, and not later than the end of November. Perhaps in the meantime you will be able to keep busy on other material.

My plan is to do a comprehensive biography and evaluation of Sherwood Eddy's life and career, perhaps 60,000 to 70,000 words. For eighteen years I was closer to him than anyone outside his family, and for thirty-seven years I have known him intimately. For me this is an absorbing and thrilling undertaking.

Do let me know if you think of ways in which I may be helpful to you.

Cordially,

262A Whitney Avenue  
New Haven 11, Conn.  
September 9, 1953

Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Mr. Page:

Well, here I am again-- looking for more information! Everytime I write to someone else for information, the reply always ends: 'Write to Kirby Page. He knows more about Sherwood Eddy than anyone else in the world!'

I am particularly interested in getting more information on Dr. Eddy during the years that he was preaching the social gospel-- that is, during the twenties. I understand that there were some YMCA laymen and secretaries who questioned his views, and that steps were taken at one time to prevent his speaking in Chicago under YMCA auspices. I would like to find out more about this and similar incidents-- what men were involved, what actually happened, etc. I am also seeking further details on his speaking in the South and the difficulties encountered there. For example, I wrote to Mr. Ed King at Raleigh, N.C., who sent me some <sup>which</sup>clippings. He said that he had sent you other clippings <sup>which</sup>would be of use to me.

I am enclosing in this letter a copy of a chronology of Dr. Eddy's life to 1931 which I have made as a result of my reading. I would appreciate it very much if you could look it over and make corrections and additions. I am particularly interested in your making notations which would deal directly with Dr. Eddy's relationship with the YMCA. For example, with what other YMCA secretaries ~~wase~~he associated and when? Were there certain periods when he was being attacked by other men in the YMCA-- who and when? I am also interested in filling out the chronology with other places visited, people he met, new work that he began, new policies tried out (eg. evangelistic methods), etc. For several of the years I have very little information.

I know that this is a big order to ask of anyone. Perhaps when you have this chronology to look at, it will be easier to recall important events. I have also sent a copy to Dr. Eddy. I have one final request-- the biggest of all! I wonder if it would be possible for you to share with me clippings, letters, correspondence, etc. that have been sent to you by other men. I know that you are busy now assembling the material, but if you could send it in batches to New Haven, I would not keep it any longer than one week. I am determined to do as good a job on this dissertation as I possibly can. Thanks for your help. Sincerely,  
*Dennis Tamm*



September 16, 1953.

Dear Mr. Fermi:

In response to your letter of the 9th, I am sending you a batch of my old correspondence which may shed light on the doings of Sherwood Eddy. Some of it may be of direct help and some of it may help you to get the feel of the situations which he faced and the efforts he put forth.

Perhaps some of the correspondence may be more intelligible if I give you a brief background of my relations with Sherwood. From early 1916 I was his private secretary and was with him pretty continuously for two and a half years, going with him twice to the war zone, and once to the Far East. Then for three months I was Dr. Mott's stenographer. For three years I was pastor of a church in Brooklyn. During the last of these years I began doing some reading for Sherwood Eddy, and in June, 1921, resigned and took up full time study, writing and speaking, which I continued from a joint office with him until 1926, when I became editor of the World Tomorrow, with an office in an adjoining building. In 1934 the W. T. was suspended because of inability longer to meet the heavy annual deficit. In eight years I raised \$176,000 to pay these deficits, until the prolonged depression put us out of business. During these 13 years Mr. Eddy paid my salary of \$5,000 or gave this amount to the W. T. (1926-1934), provided office and secretarial help (1921-26), paid traveling expenses to Europe in 1916, 1917, 1921, 1923, 1924, 1926, and around the earth for eleven months 1929-30 (I raised funds for my wife's traveling expenses in 1924 and 1929-30).

During the decade beginning in 1921, he and I were intimately related to most of the leaders in the social gospel movement, and were among the founders of the Fellowship for a Christian Social Order, the National Conference on the Christian Way of Life (which became The Inquiry and was followed by the Pacific Institute of International Relations), the Fellowship of Socialist Christians, the League for Independent Political Action, and the effort to unite the clashing forces supporting the Outlawry of War Movement and the World Court, and were active in the special student campaign in behalf of the World Court.

Professor Sheed will be able to shed light on some of the events referred to in this correspondence, and I will be glad to answer questions about it. More than a hundred letters have come to me during recent weeks, and I will send them to you shortly. I will also send to you the bound volume of letters received by Sherwood Eddy on his 70th birthday. You will doubtless want to write directly to some of the individuals involved in some of the correspondence. In due time I will send to you the tentative chapters of my biography of him, four of them being in rough form now.

Dr. Eddy's life has been and is so significant that we ought to do our best.

Cordially

262A Whitney Avenue  
New Haven 11, Conn'tt.  
October 4, 1953

Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Mr. Page:

I will mail to you tomorrow morning the batch of material which I received from you last week. This material has been a tremendous help to me. In fact, I feel that it has been the most profitable set of letters that I have yet seen. The period of the twenties has been to now the weakest part, as far as getting to know Dr. Eddy's relationship to the YMCA. Your correspondence has filled a big gap. Many thanks to you for your kindness in sending it to me.

I am now spending most of my studying time at the YMCA Historical Library in New York City, and I am finding this to be a rich source of information. There is a great deal of material in this library, especially in the Foreign Archives, which bears a direct relation to my problem. I think that when I finish a study of these materials, I will have a pretty good picture of the relationship between Dr. Eddy and the YMCA.

There are a few questions which are running through my mind that I want to ask you, but I think that I shall wait until I get into the materials more fully. I would appreciate your sending on to me the letters to which you referred in your letter of September 16. Again let me thank you for your wonderful cooperation.

Cordially yours,

*Deane W. Ferm*

Deane W. Ferm

262A Whitney Avenue  
New Haven 11, Conn.,  
October 11, 1953

Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Mr. Page:

You may be interested in knowing that I had luncheon and a long talk with Dr. Sherwood Eddy last Thursday. I was extremely impressed by him, and now I am even more glad that I am doing this study. I peppered him with questions, and his memory was truly remarkable. What a man!

I explained to him the type of study that I was undertaking, and how I had found considerable material at the YMCA Historical Library at 291 Broadway which has a direct bearing on the problem of his relationship to the YMCA. In the course of our conversation I mentioned to him something that I had assumed that he already knew: that Dr. Kenneth Scott Latourette is working on a history of the foreign work of the YMCA. He will be spending the next four summers on this study, and he will be working on it at Oregon City, Oregon. Already a considerable amount of material has been shipped there, and will remain there until he completes the entire study. Naturally I was somewhat perturbed over this, since I would have liked to look it over. The material consists largely of reports from the secretaries on the field, personal correspondence among them, etc. As I understand it, the material is organized according to countries and not according to men. There is some material there bearing directly on Dr. Eddy, although it is scattered throughout the rest of the material.

Dr. Eddy wanted me to write you about this. He thought that, since you were reasonably close to Oregon, you might be interested in taking a look at the material. I am sure that you could get more information on this from Dr. Eugene Barnett. I don't know whether Dr. Latourette would object to having someone else go over this material or not. Once again let me emphasize the fact that I do not know how much material there is which would be of immediate relevance to your study.

If I can help you in any way, please let me know. For example, I have run across the original letter written by Eddy to Morse telling the conditions under which Eddy would be willing to accept appointment from the YMCA. Would you be interested in a copy? You've been so helpful to me, and I would be glad to help you.

Cordially yours,

*Deane W. Terry*

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# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CORPORATE BODY: NATIONAL BOARD OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

291 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 7, N.Y.

DIGBY 9-0700

October 20, 1953

Dr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Dr. Page:

In the absence of Mrs. Howell, our Librarian, your letter of October 12th has reached my desk. We are very sorry to have kept you waiting this long for an answer, but due to the sudden death of Mrs. Howell's husband, and other illness in her family, she has had to remain away from her desk longer than we anticipated.

As far as I know, Dr. Latourette plans on retaining the material he is working on for several years; however, as soon as Mrs. Howell returns she will write to you.

Sincerely yours,

*Virginia Downes*

Virginia Downes  
Library Assistant

262A Whitney Avenue  
New Haven 11, Conn'tt.  
November 4, 1953

Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra,  
California

Dear Mr. Page:

I am sorry that I am so tardy in sending you a copy of the enclosed letter from Eddy to Morse. I spent last week out in Ohio, so I'm just getting back in the swing of things. I have finished my work at the YMCA Historical Library in New York City, and I will be spending this month working at the John R. Mott Library here at Yale Divinity School.

I received today your batch of letters. I appreciate very much having the chance to look over this material, and I am sure that I will find a great deal of worthwhile material in this collection.

Unfortunately, I have misplaced one of the Eddy pamphlets that I have borrowed from the Yale Divinity School. I am wondering if you might by chance have an extra copy that I could purchase from you. The name of the pamphlet is: Victory Over Temptation, How Christ Helps A Man to Achieve Character, Christianity and Personal Problems No.3, George H. Doran Co., N.Y., 1924, 40p. I believe that it is the only pamphlet that does not appear on the list of 50 Eddy pamphlets that you compiled. Would you have an extra copy?

Again let me thank you for sending me this new collection of material. I shall take good care of it, and I will return it to you next week. Please let me know if there is any way in which I may be able to help you.

Cordially yours,

*Deane W. Ferm*

Deane W. Ferm

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

November 10, 1953

Dr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Kirby,

I should have sent you the enclosed earlier, and  
it may be too late now. If so, kindly ignore it.

Hope you are making good progress with the Eddy  
book.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

*J. Hartley*  
J. Hartley Fowler

jhf/o  
Enclosure



A testimony regarding Dr. Sherwood Eddy, by his former secretary, Hartley Fowler

I shall never forget Sherwood Eddy. We first met when he asked me, in the City of Ottawa, Canada, in 1911, to become his first private secretary. Later, he told me how it happened. He had become Secretary for Asia of the International Committee of the Y. M. C. A., and needed a secretary but did not have the money for one, so he made it a matter of prayer that God would send the right man, and then that someone would provide for his support.

One day, after asking Mrs. Cyrus McCormick in Chicago for a gift for the foreign work of the "Y," and she had given it to him, she said: "Now what can I do for you personally, Mr. Eddy?" Immediately, he shared his need for a private secretary and told her about it. She, in turn, told him that she would support a secretary for him as long as she lived, which, I understand, she did. Later, Mr. Eddy had me meet Mrs. McCormick in her home; which was characteristic of him. He told me many times that I was the answer to his prayer!

I gave up a government position in Ottawa and joined Dr. Eddy in September 1912. The following month we set sail with Dr. Mott and five other Secretaries, for a round-the-world trip. Dr. Mott, too, led conferences with leading missionaries to follow up the Edinburgh World Missionary Conference, and both he and Sherwood Eddy held evangelistic meetings with students and educated men in all of the major cities they were to visit across Asia.

The most vivid memories I have of that trip are the intimate staff meetings with Dr. Mott and Dr. Eddy in our ship cabins. Every day we met for prayer and discussion of plans. One got very close to these great men that way, and their personalities became indelibly impressed upon you. Not only the greatness, but the sincerity of the lives of these two leaders was outstanding. They were in dead earnest in representing Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God. They worked early and late on the boat, getting their addresses ready and preparing for the

conferences with missionary leaders and the meetings with non-Christian students. They even took a whole set of Encyclopedia Britannica with them.

I shall never forget Dr. Eddy at the student meetings. The attendance rose from about 1000 per night in Colomb<sup>o</sup>, Ceylon, to 5000 in the "Forbidden City" of Peking. He started first by trying to get conviction of sin on account of a lack of personal and national character in the country he was visiting, and then tried to show that Christ was the answer to their deepest needs. While most of the audiences were very attentive, and thousands became enquirers, occasionally there would be opposition. At such times, both Dr. Eddy and Dr. Mott would continue speaking with greater sincerity and force than ever. The usual result was that the disturbers would withdraw, some of them to come back another night, and others to sign up as enquirers.

Dr. Eddy lived such an intense life that his throat very often troubled him, and I had to swab it many times. He was also troubled with insomnia, at times, but this never seemed to deter him from keeping his busy schedule.

Sherwood Eddy was, and still is, essentially a liberal. On one occasion he called a fundamentalist missionary a "crank" on account of his narrow views. The missionary quietly replied: "Sometimes, Mr. Eddy, cranks turn things."

Sherwood always had a keen sense of humor. I remember once we were stranded in the hulk of an old ship, on the Yangtse River, waiting for our steamer to arrive, and we sang all the crazy songs we could think of, and even parodied some of them. I also remember once when he swung a lantern at a railway crossing to stop a train which otherwise would not have stopped and which would have made him late for an engagement. We both scrambled on to the train so quickly that the conductor never knew who did it.

You cannot live with a man as intimately as I did, for three and a half years, without seeing both his strength and his weakness. I think I know something of Sherwood Eddy's weaknesses. For one thing, he tried to handle too many subjects and therefore, of necessity, became somewhat superficial with them. But when all his weaknesses are listed, they would make a very small list as compared with his strengths. Sherwood Eddy was, first of all, a sincere, personal disciple of Jesus Christ. He never got away from his conversion under Dwight L. Moody, at Northfield, as a student. While in India as a missionary, before he entered Y. M. C. A. work, he was deeply discouraged and wanted to return home. While in prayer he was reminded of his experience at Northfield and the verse Mr. Moody used: "Whosoever drinketh of the water that <sup>I shall</sup> ~~is~~ give him shall never thirst." He said he realized what was wrong; he had stopped drinking. Then, he said, "I started drinking again and from that day to this (some 30 years later) I have never had an hour of darkness or doubt, or despair."

Secondly, Sherwood Eddy was a Christian evangelist, particularly to the educated classes. He had a good mind and used it unswervingly to reach the students of the world. I doubt that many men have addressed larger numbers of educated men around the world than Sherwood Eddy.

Thirdly, he could raise money for Christian work. One day, I remember, he had an inspiration to go and see a man in Philadelphia, about a gift. He came back with a pledge of \$10,000 for three years. On another occasion, he asked Mr. A. A. Hyde, the great Christian philanthropist of Wichita, Kansas, for a gift to help him close the International Committee books at the end of the year. Mr. Hyde pulled out a bankbook, showing a balance of \$14,000 in it, and told Sherwood he could draw on him for any amount needed, up to that amount, at the end of the year. Many times Mr. Eddy said he really had only two talents: One, to win men to Christ, and the other, to win money for the Kingdom of God.

Sherwood Eddy was an author. One does not need to enlarge upon this, for his numerous books speak for themselves. He always said his finest book was a little pamphlet he wrote early in his career, for students, entitled: "The Supreme Decision of a Christian Student." Sherwood particularly excelled in biographies.

He was a Christian prophet. As such he was fearless and ahead of his time. Many of the social principles for which he stood were greatly misunderstood, and certain YMCA's refused even to allow him to speak. Many of these principles, however, have since been widely accepted.

One of the finest tributes I could pay to him is that he always treated me as a friend and brother. In fact, he once referred to our relationship as that which existed between Paul and Timothy. No man could have paid me a higher compliment and I feel very unworthy of it.

11/12/53

YALE UNIVERSITY  
THE DIVINITY SCHOOL

CLARENCE PROUTY SHEDD  
*Religion in Higher Education*

409 PROSPECT STREET  
NEW HAVEN 11, CONN.

November 9, 1953

Dr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Kirby:

My failure to reply to your letter of October 9 does not mean that I have overlooked it or forgotten my promise to give you such assistance as I can on your project. It only means that I have been hopelessly swamped with Yale work since I returned and I am also obliged to give some of my attention to the history project. As you know I am returning to Geneva March 1 to complete the project.

I intend to send you Imler's essay within the next two weeks. I cannot send it immediately because it is in use.

With regard to my personal recollections I would also hope that you would give me more time because I would like to send the kind of letter which is documented. I am saying this because my work on various historical projects has led me to have very little faith in letters in which people give their recollections of their relations to an individual. This, I think, is the weakness of Galen Fisher's book. It is not, of course, a weakness over which he had any control, because it was the method which was chosen by Dr. Mott for the basis for the preparation of this book. I do have, of course, rather vivid recollections of my relations to Sherwood in various S.V.M. and S.C.M. conferences and also in relation to other projects, particularly the first Sherwood Eddy Seminar to Europe. I recall very well the walk I took with Sherwood on the Charles' riverfront at the time when he was choosing his first group and was very generously extending an invitation to me to be a member of that group.

Deane Ferm is making rather good progress in dealing with the source material in New Haven and in New York on Sherwood Eddy's leadership as an evangelist and as an international Y.M.C.A. secretary. He met Sherwood for the first time about a month ago and, of course, you and I know the kind of impression that Sherwood makes on any one young or old when they meet him. He was amazed at Sherwood's intellectual keenness and his physical vigor and came away with the impression that he had been dealing with a very great man who was in his early fifties.

I remember passing Sherwood in Grand Central Station (when he and I were both rushing to different trains). It was in the summer and I asked him if he were going to have a vacation - his response was quite characteristic. "Vacation?" said he, "Clarence, I get a vacation between every heartbeat."

I hope that your time schedule will allow me to prepare a more careful statement at some later date, some of which may be personal and part of which I expect to uncover in connection with the continuing research on the history project of the Y.M.C.A.

With warm personal regards to you and the members of your family and especially the whole Raitt tribe, I remain,

Cordially yours,



Clarence P. Shedd

CPS/sb



My dear Mr Rietmulder:

Let me thank you most warmly for your frank letter of November 3rd. I am grateful to you for having these early chapters read with so much care. It seems highly probable that I cannot write a biography of Sherwood Eddy which will appeal to you for I have no gifts as a dramatist.

The type of book that I want to write is to present a clear portrait of him as I have known him for nearly forty years and as he is revealed in what he has written and what his friends have told me about him. I want this picture of him to be authentic, and so it must be deeply appreciative and highly critical. I suppose that no one else has a higher estimate of his character and his achievements than I have, yet it probably true that no one else has had so many vigorous arguments with him over as long a period as I have. I believe that the story of his life can be made highly interesting and truly influential.

I agree with you that "a great deal of work is yet to be done." I had hoped to get from you more specific criticism of the various chapters. Such critical appraisal is needed. This I recognize.

I see so clearly the type of book that I want to write that I am going to proceed along the lines of my convictions. There are many types of biographies. There is no single pattern of excellence. It happens that I have read ~~more than~~ a thousand different biographies, and this is no figure of speech. I prefer to work on one type rather than along other lines.

Please tell me frankly whether or not you would like to see my finished manuscript when it is ready.

With ~~much~~ gratitude for the interest you have already shown and for the time you have spent on the early chapters.

Cordially,

I still think a first chapter briefly describing the life of the person  
Chapter of Pilgrimage & Ideas should be included.

# Association Press

291 BROADWAY

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

Digby 9-0700

If Exman does not accept I am minded  
to send mine to Gene Barnett & by wire giving them  
power to edit, publish & advertise for Assn Press. There must be 20  
friends like Bernard Clussman, Mary Crane etc who would review it for them  
and give a final paper.

November 10, 1953

Mr. Kirby Page  
P. O. Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Mr. Page:

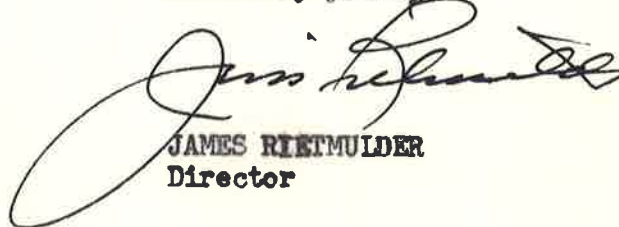
Yes, indeed, Association Press does want to see  
your finished manuscript. We're hoping very much it will be  
publishable by us.

There are, as you say, many kinds of biographies.  
My suggestion that you indicate the type that appeals to you  
was not only to help you, but to help us have a perspective  
on this.

All of us here at the National Council are, of  
course, more than interested in this project.

Best wishes on it.

Cordially yours,

  
JAMES RIETMULDER  
Director

JR:ljm

Publication Department

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JOHN OLIVER NELSON, Chairman  
JAMES RIETMULDER, Director

262A Whitney Avenue  
New Haven 11, Conn.  
November 16, 1953.

Mr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Mr. Page:

I have your letter of November 4th in which you state that the batch of letters and the bound volume which you sent me may be placed in the Eddy Collection at the Yale Divinity School Library. I have finished a first reading of these materials, and I shall take them this week to Mr. Raymond P. Morris, the Head Librarian at the Yale Divinity School. I know that he will be very pleased to add them to the Eddy Collection.

As you probably know, the Yale Divinity School Library has received a very large collection of various papers of John R. Mott, and they now have a special room in the Library named after Dr. Mott in which are contained these papers. In addition, they are trying to build up collections of materials from other men who were active in the YMCA movement. That is why they are happy to add to their Eddy Collection. I believe that you still have the pamphlets that are in this collection. If you have any other pamphlets that this collection does not have that you could donate to the Yale Library, I know that they would be very appreciative.

I enjoyed very much reading the material that you sent to me. It has all proved quite helpful. If you receive any further material, I would appreciate your sending it on to me when you are finished with it. I shall send it back to you or add it to the Eddy Collection, however you specify.

Many thanks to you for sending me this material, and I appreciate your willingness to add it to the Yale Collection.

Cordially yours,

*Deane W. Ferm*

Deane W. Ferm

Dear Mr. Page,

Please accept this  
as payment for postage.  
This material has been  
of tremendous value to  
me.

Sincerely,  
Deana Fern

WM J. GREDE  
PRESIDENT

EUGENE R. MCCARTHY  
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL BOARD

ELLIOTT H. LEE  
TREASURER, NATIONAL BOARD

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WILLIAM E. SPEERS  
VICE CHAIRMEN, NATIONAL BOARD

CLEVELAND E. DODGE

JOHN M. PRICHARD

# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CORPORATE BODY: NATIONAL BOARD OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

291 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 7, N.Y.

DIGBY 9-0700

November 18, 1953

Dear Dr. Page:

I am sorry that there has been such a long delay in my answer to your October 12th letter. I have, however, very little to add to the information in Mrs. Downes' October 20th letter.

It is Mr. Ferm's opinion that you have seen almost all, if not all, of the report letters owned by our historical library. They would have been amongst those sent to you for examination by the Yale Divinity School Library. We attach for your information a list of Dr. Eddy's report letters owned by us. You can see from this whether or not Mr. Ferm is correct in his assumption.

I regret that we can not be more helpful.

Sincerely yours,

*Jessie L. Howell*

YMCA Historical Library

Dr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California



YALE UNIVERSITY  
THE DIVINITY SCHOOL

CLARENCE PROUTY SHEDD  
*Religion in Higher Education*

409 PROSPECT STREET  
NEW HAVEN 11, CONN.

January 14, 1954

Dr. Kirby Page  
Post Office Box 247  
La Habra, California

Dear Kirby:

Time marches on! Once again I am getting into the mood for history - of necessity! I return to Geneva on March 5 to pick up again the work on the history of the World Y.M.C.A. I shall be there for six months and in that period, I must complete my part of the World Y.M.C.A. history project.

This situation brings me back to the correspondence that we have had about your work on Sherwood Eddy. A long time ago you asked me to send you my copy of William Imler's S.T.M. essay on "The Evangelistic Campaigns of Sherwood Eddy in India and China 1896-1931". At the time I indicated that I wanted to hold it a little longer because I wanted to do some work on it. That was a very optimistic kind of hope. The facts are that the pressure of my Yale work and national relationships has been such that I have had no time to put in on the World Y.M.C.A. history. The problem that confronted me when I wrote to you previously was that I had given the Imler essay a casual reading in Geneva to know that it was satisfactory for an S.T.M., but not careful enough to form a judgment of it as a historical and biographical work. I took time yesterday to do this. I am sending it to you first-class mail today. After having studied it more critically, I really question its value to you. It is a good piece of work summarizing in chronological order much of Sherwood's evangelistic activity. The final chapter of the essay appraising the methods of evangelism is pretty good, but it leaves a great deal to be desired. I think its usefulness to you is that at points it might make available to you in easy fashion quotations from the Eddy letters which you have already studied carefully. In my work on World Y.M.C.A. history, I have, frankly, found that I could pull out of certain secondary sources material from primary sources which might not be as quickly available or which I might have overlooked in my own study. My criticism of this essay is that it is too much a setting down of events in chronological order and reveals Eddy's immense evangelistic activity, but gives little or no insight into the spirit of the man or his message. I am sure that is due to the limitations of the sources that were available to him. I know that you are studying with great care the contemporary sources for each period which go more into a reflection of Eddy's actual message, give more of a picture of his development of theological and social thinking, and much more of an impression of the quality and significance of the man.



Again, I would say that it is a good S.T.M. essay, and probably reflects pretty well the points of view that one can gain from the letters that are available here. It is not, however, (and Imler himself would know this) an even relatively adequate appraisal of Sherwood's experience in the evangelistic campaigns in India and China.

I suspect you may want to spend two or three weeks on this and then I would be glad to have you return it for my files. With warm personal regards, I remain,

Cordially yours,



Clarence P. Shedd

CPS/sb